STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON

INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 687
Councillor Steeves noted that this summer was one of the worst in terms of back lane maintenance in the St. Vital Ward and requested an explanation.

Councillor Clement replied that he was not aware of anything special but was aware that some of the back lanes were narrower and that a special smaller machine was required in these areas. He added that this machine was down for repairs for a significant portion of the summer and that caused some of the problems

Councillor Steeves questioned why the entire month of August was spent without the machine and why were Councillors not informed that it was not operating. Councillor Clement reiterated his response and Councillor Steeves asked what steps have been taken to ensure that this would not happen again.

Councillor Clement suggested that the matter would be discussed at the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works.

Councillor Pagtakhan asked if there would be a fall leaf sweep program this year and, if so, when would it take place. Councillor Clement replied that the fall leaf sweep would take place and was usually done during the last couple of weeks in October.

Councillor Pagtakhan requested an email outlining the exact program period to which Councillor Clement agreed to have the department provide the information to all Members of Council.

Councillor Swandel inquired about the snow clearing budget to which Councillor Clement replied that the question would have been more appropriate for the Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance. He added that the City's policy was to clear the streets according to the stated policy, regardless of the status of the budget.

In noting that it was more expensive to grade and keep the gravel back lanes or roads in passable condition and that it may be prudent to begin to hard cover them, Councillor Swandel asked if any information would be forthcoming on gravel back lanes. Councillor Clement replied that he presumed the issue would be raised during the Current Budget deliberations, as was done last year.